

Q. What to do if the guardian will not pick up the screen positive child?

A. Explain what criteria the child met to screen positive and the requirements for school re-admittance. Let them know that their child will remain in isolation until they are removed from the school. Also refer to the school policy.

Q. What if the parent does not want the student to wear a mask?

A. Refer the parent to the school/district policy regarding mask use.

Q. What do I do for the sibling(s) of the screen positive student?

A. Two things –

Known COVID-19 Exposure: the sibling should be removed from class and quarantined

No known COVID-19 Exposure: the sibling would only be removed if the screen positive student has confirmed infection with COVID-19 (i.e. Positive test)

Q. What if two students are positive in one class?

A. The health department will be directing who requires quarantine.

Q. If a student was on a bus or in a carpool with an individual who is currently “screen positive” but test result “unknown” should they quarantine for 14 days?

A. No. At this point quarantine is only recommended for those individuals with significant exposure (<6 feet for ≥15 minutes) to known positive cases. The health department is notified of all positive cases and will assist in determining who requires quarantine.

Q. If a teacher is positive does the classroom need to quarantine for 14 days?

A. The local health department will determine this. It will be based on the amount and consistency of the direct health measures/social distancing.

Q. If the quarantined student has a negative COVID-19 test can they return to school prior to completion of the 14 day period?

A. No, they still need to isolate throughout the 14 day incubation period.

Q. I do not understand why there is no requirement for 2nd negative test before return when the first test is just that moment in time. Please explain.

A. If you test positive or are screened positive and do not get tested, you need to stay home for ten days when you are most infectious. It is only during that period you need to be tested, but you do not need a test to come back as long as you isolated for ten days.

Q. If a student is screened positive and sent home, can the sibling continue to stay in school until they also screen positive or has a positive test?

A. Other household members are not quarantined unless there is another positive member in the family or a high likelihood of infection in the student. The health department should be involved in a situation like this.

Q. If provider sends a note saying "not contagious and may return" do we have to allow them back? School decision or health dept decision? Which one trumps?

A. Hopefully the provider gave an alternative diagnosis for going back to school. Unsure whose answer trump; the provider should have a reason why the patient has the symptoms (e.g. strep, mono tests); otherwise student should stay home as diagnosis is unknown.

Q. How do nurses know the difference between allergies and COVID if the teacher send the student to the nurse?

A. There is no a clear cut answer. Use common sense – does the child say they get symptoms every year like this? May need to send home then have parent take student to the doctor for a note verifying allergy symptoms and what is being done to control/treat. Use your nursing judgment on this one too.

Q. Is it possible to get a false negative? We had a staff person with all of the symptoms you would expect; they got a test on day 2 of symptoms.

A. Yes, there can be false positives and negatives. Typical COVID symptoms and a known exposure should lead to retesting if possible.

Q. Is it better to get testing done early or later if you are put into a 14 day quarantine?

A. No test needed as you can develop symptoms anytime. A test on day three does not mean you can leave quarantine. The quarantine needs to be adhered to for the entire 14 days.

Q. Schools have been open about two weeks now and are receiving a high volume of requests to open their facilities for youth sports teams comprised of students who attend said school. These are for youth basketball, youth football, and volleyball. The parents who are denied these requests for club teams to use school facilities are typically saying that they will rent gym space at private facilities that are in use by a wider range of youth groups if the school denies their request. Do you have recommendations related to this dilemma ?

A. There are different degrees of risk depending on the sport. Baseball outside is less risky than basketball or football when in closer spaces together. CDC has guidance on this. The health department would have to be involved in this situation.

Q. This is more of a concern than a question, I had a few kids in Monday, who happen to be "frequent fliers"; they complained almost every symptom on the list of symptoms that they must have two or more to get sent home. No history of allergies in either kiddo. I just followed protocol and isolated

them and sent them home. I am afraid we will have more and more in like this and sending kids home who don't need to go but I would rather be safe than sorry

A. This is going to be a continuing issue for kids who do not want to be in class. Think of the bigger population at school and try to contact parents, let them know your concerns. IF they screen positive, send them home.

Q. Should we all get antibody testing to determine if we have already been positive, so we can go on without all the worries?

A. We still do not know if antibody positive means lasting immunity. CDC says if antibody positive, you are somewhat safe for three months. Vaccines will likely be like the flu where you will need an annual dose.

Q. So, we send those frequent fliers home should we have them get doctors note to come back

A. If screening positive at school, students need to be home for ten days. Call parent, let them know if that guideline and request a doctor appointment. If the doctor says it is behavioral in origin, and the school nurse agrees, that is a reason to bring student back earlier.

Q. Thinking ahead to the fall, how will students with chronic health conditions be affected or what should they be concerned about (asthma, diabetes, SPED, etc)?

A. There is not anything beyond what is already being done. With all the directed health measures, that is what is protecting this population. Have conversations with parents to see if virtual education is best for the student. Immuno-compromised children are not having disproportionately having more severe illness. Wearing masks and hand washing is the safest thing for these children.

Q. How to distinguish between COVID and rhinovirus??

A. You can't unless you test for COVID.